

FISCAL NOTE

HB 1419 - SB 1741

April 3, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the Patient Safety Act of 1997 which requires the Department of Health to implement rules to ensure the safety of every patient in a facility licensed by the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities. The rules shall require a registered nurse to be responsible for the quality assurance of nursing care at the facility and to be responsible for the direct nursing care of the patient. The bill provides for a maximum \$25,000 per day fine for violation of the rules.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Exceeds \$200,000

Increase State Revenues - Not Significant

Assumes that this will require licensed facilities to hire new staff or replace licensed nurses with registered nurses with a resulting increase in cost. Such expenditures would be reimbursed by TennCare/Medicaid to long term care facilities.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Davenport".

James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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